

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4424
ANSWERED ON 20TH AUGUST, 2025**

NEW NATIONAL TELECOM POLICY

**4424. SHRI V K SREEKANDAN:
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA CHANDU BARNE:
SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV:
SMT. BHARTI PARDHI:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is currently preparing the draft of a new National Telecom Policy which is likely to replace the National Digital Communications Policy (NDCP), 2018 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the NDCP, 2018 had a target to provide universal broadband connectivity at 50 Mbps to every citizen by the year 2022 and if so, the details thereof along with the current status of the said target;
- (c) the manner in which the new policy modifies or evolves these ambitious broadband penetration targets particularly regarding fixed-line broadband access for households;
- (d) whether the NDCP, 2018 had a target of setting up 1 crore public Wi-Fi hotspots by the year 2022 while the new draft reportedly aims to set up 10 lakh hotspots;
- (e) if so, the reasons for the said significant reduction along with the revised strategy for providing public Wi-Fi access;
- (f) whether it is also true that the Government has set a target of covering 90% of the population with 5G by 2030 and 100% with 4G and if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) whether it is also true that the towers that are connected to fiber to telecom networks are sought to be increased from 46% to 80% and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)**

(a) to (g) Yes, the Government of India is in the process of drafting the National Telecom Policy (NTP), 2025 which will have many aspirational goals related to connectivity, domestic manufacturing, security, R&D etc. in telecom sector. The National Digital Communications Policy (NDCP), 2018 had set certain aspirational goals such as providing universal broadband connectivity at 50 Mbps to every citizen and creating 1 crore public Wi-Fi hotspots. Broadband subscribers have increased to 94.41 crore in March 2025 from 48.1 crore in September, 2018. The median wireless and fixed broadband speeds have improved to 133.51 Mbps and 59.51 Mbps respectively in June, 2025. No. of wireline subscribers have increased to 3.7 crore in March, 2025 from 2.12 crore in September, 2018. Further, 4,08, 156 Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed across the country.

The National Telecom Policy, 2025 is currently in the draft stage, and the various targets under consideration, including those relating to broadband penetration, public Wi-Fi expansion, 4G and 5G coverage, and fiberization of telecom towers, are yet to be finalised. The various targets are being deliberated in the context of prevailing sectoral developments, emerging technology evolution, infrastructure readiness, and the need to balance aspiration with feasibility.

The policy's overall goal will be to transform India into a telecom product nation that is driven by innovation and that universally connects its citizens meaningfully, securely and sustainably.
